



SENATE

**APPROVED Minutes of the Meeting held on
Monday, January 11, 2016
4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Theatre A, Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building,
Carleton Campus, Halifax**

The Senate met in regular session on Monday, January 11, 2016 in Theatre A, Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present with Mr. K. Hewitt in the chair were the following: Anderson, Banks, Barrett, Baur, Baylis, Bodoric, Boran, Bourne-Tyson, Brown, Burton, Byers, Cameron, Chen, Cochrane, Cooper, DasGupta, Dobson, Doman, Erdman, Finley, Florizone, Gahagan, Gantar, Goodday, Gray, Habib, Harman, Hill, Holmes, Hunt, Hutton, Khan, Kirk, Kozey, Langille, Leach, Leon, Leonard, Lu, B. MacDonald, C. MacDonald, M. Macdonald, Manuel, Mansour, Mazzanti, Meynell, Nicholson, Noble, Pacurar, Parker, Stadnyk, Stanish, Tennessen, Wach, Watters, Zaiotti.

Regrets: Ali, Bhatia, Cutler, Goldberg, Kesselring, McCallum Roy, Smit, Stone, Wright.

Absent: Grant, Herder, Kyriakidis, Ma, MacRae, Mopoho, Quraishi, Rau-Chaplin, Smith, Webster.

Guests: S. Brousseau (University Secretary), C. Plummer (Minute-Taker), A. Power (Recording Secretary).

2016:01

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was **APPROVED** as presented.

2016:02

Consent Agenda

Approval of Draft Minutes of December 14, 2015 Senate Meeting

The draft minutes of December 14, 2015 were **APPROVED**.

Matters Arising from the December 14, 2015 Senate Minutes

There was one matter arising from the December 14, 2015 Senate minutes, but it was noted that this would be addressed by Senator Watters under Item 9.1- Funding of the JRJ Chair in Black Canadian Studies. There were no other matters arising.

2016:03

Chair of Senate's Report

Senator Hewitt encouraged all Senators to submit recent announcements regarding students and faculty who have been recognized locally, nationally or internationally for their contributions. He then congratulated Dalhousie Professor Afua Cooper on receiving the Dr. Burnley Allan 'Rocky' Jones award from the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission. The award recognizes Dr. Cooper's work on cultural diversity and inclusion as a community leader, advocate, academic and author. Senator Hewitt also congratulated fifth-year Management student Justin Javorek, and Senator and Engineering student Dhruv Bhatia, who were the first individuals outside of the U.S. to be named University Innovation Fellows in a Stanford University-linked program. The program, run by Epicenter, empowers students to become "agents of change" and champions of entrepreneurship at their universities.

He also congratulated Mary Anne White, Professor in the Department of Chemistry, and Fred Wien, Professor Emeritus in the School of Social Work, on their appointments to the Order of Canada in 2015. Senator Hewitt noted literature of interest to Senators that is included in the meeting package, particularly the Senator Meeting Procedures Guide, which is intended to provide basic information to senators on the general conduct of a Senate meeting and common motions.

The Senate Learning and Teaching Committee approved the list of appointments of faculty Senators who will chair Teaching Award Committees.

Educational Leadership Award for Collaborative Teaching - Krista Kesselring
Dalhousie Alumni Association Award of Excellence for Teaching - Kevin Hewitt
Contract and Sessional Instructor Award of Excellence for Teaching - Marilyn Macdonald
Early Career Faculty Award of Excellence for Teaching - Chris Cutler
President's Graduate Student Teaching Award - David Burton
Award for Excellence in Graduate Supervision - David Byers
Academic Innovation Award - Corinne MacDonald
Award for Excellence in Education for Diversity - Katherine Harman

The Faculty Discipline Procedures (FDP) Quarterly Report, attached to the meeting package, outlined the distribution of Academic Integrity Offences and penalties for the period October to December 2015. Senator Harman clarified, in response to a question, that the report is based on the number of Academic Integrity Officer (AIO) hearings. Some of the Faculties did not have any academic offences listed, meaning that there were no AIO hearings during this period.

2016:04

President's Report

Senator Florizone spoke about the visit earlier in the day of federal finance minister, the Honourable Bill Morneau, who was on campus as part of the government's national pre-budget consultations. He noted that themes discussed included investments in innovation and entrepreneurship, research and infrastructure... Senator Florizone noted a number of other matters, including the sad news of the recent death of Neil Gall, Executive Director of MEOPAR (Marine Environmental Observation Prediction and Response Network, hosted at Dalhousie). He congratulated Drs. White and Wien on receiving the Order of Canada and also noted that George Elliot Clarke (MA, LLD) was recently named the Canadian Parliamentary Poet Laureate. Lastly, he spoke to various meetings he has attended over the past several

weeks, including meetings of the U15 in Ottawa, alumni visits in the Vancouver area, and a meeting with the Black Faculty Caucus here in Halifax.

2016:05

DSU President's Report

Senator Nicholson reported that the DSU is in the middle of Winter Orientation. This is a new initiative implemented over the past few years to provide support to students halfway through the year, particularly to promote alcohol safety and reduction and alternative events. He spoke briefly to a number of other events and activities, including continuing meetings with the provincial government regarding the MOU with Nova Scotia universities and also the outcome agreements flowing out of Bill 100, the hiring of a new coordinator for the DSU's 24-hour phone line project, and planning for Dalhousie's 200th Anniversary (including student consultations to ascertain what the students want to see and celebrate). Senator Nicholson also spoke to the DSU's recent governance review, stating that they have been working with the Registrar's Office, specifically around self-identification, to better share information regarding programs and supports for students. Additionally, he spoke to the success of the Open House Forum for the ad hoc Committee of Senate on Fossil Fuel Divestment.

2016:06

Senate Planning and Governance Committee (SPGC)

Dalhousie Student Union: Senate Membership Reform Proposal and revised Senate Constitution

Senator Hewitt provided background on the Senate membership reform proposal and then put the motion on the floor.

On behalf of the Senate Planning and Governance Committee, Senator Hewitt **MOVED:**

THAT Senate approve a proposed amendment to Section 3.4(b) of the Senate Constitution to read as follows: 3.4 (b) Students: Twenty-two (22) students, comprising the President and Vice President - Academic and External of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), representation from Faculties (at least one of whom shall represent the Agricultural Campus), representation from equity-seeking groups, a minimum of two graduate students and a minimum of one international student. Students shall be elected to Senate for one-year terms using a process as determined by the DSU.

Senator Hutton, DSU Vice President, Academic and External, spoke to the motion on behalf of the Senate Planning and Governance Committee, noting that the rationale is to increase the quantity and quality of student senator engagement. The motion will amend the Constitution to increase student representation and diversity on Senate. The amendment would create a 1:3:1 ratio of administration to faculty to student representation on Senate. This is a standard ratio across other universities throughout Canada.

There were numerous questions and significant discussion around the various components of the motion, including the total number of students, the faculty distribution, the current one-year terms for student senators, and the process for election/appointment to be determined by the DSU. It was also noted that the motion does not make it clear that every Faculty will be represented, nor does it specify the distribution of the equity seats.

There was also substantial discussion on the question of broader constitutional reform that focuses on the same issues of representation and diversity for faculty senators. The motion presented raises the issue

of increasing representation and diversity for those seats as well, therefore potentially requiring broader reform to the Constitution. There were also concerns that this motion would create a new relationship between the DSU and Senate that does not exist for the administrative or faculty seats on Senate. Subsequently, there was a motion by Senator Noble to propose a new motion or motion to amend, with the potential to establish an ad hoc committee to review current membership. A point of order was noted, reminding senators that the main motion is currently on the floor.

Mr. Leon **MOVED**, seconded by Mr. Bodorick:

*THAT Senate approve a proposed amendment to Section 3.4(b) of the Senate Constitution to read as follows: 3.4 (b) Students: Twenty-two (22) students, comprising the President and Vice President - Academic and External of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), **at least one representative from each Faculty** (at least one of whom shall represent the Agricultural Campus), representation from equity-seeking groups, a minimum of two graduate students and a minimum of one international student. Students shall be elected to Senate for one-year terms using a process as determined by the DSU.*

The amendment **CARRIED**.

There was then further discussion of how to deal with the amended motion.

Mr. Mazzanti **MOVED**, seconded by Mr. Finley:

THAT Senate refer the amended motion to committee.

After considerable discussion of the motion, Senator Nicholson called the question.

The motion was **DEFEATED**.

Ms. Baylis **MOVED**, seconded by Ms. Pacurar:

THAT the amended main motion be further amended to change one year to two years in the last line of the motion.

In discussion of this potential amendment Senator Nicholson noted that he would prefer that it remain as one year.

Senator Finley called the question.

The amendment was **DEFEATED**.

Senator Bodorick called the question on the original, amended motion. It was noted that the vote would have to be a 2/3 majority as the motion was Constitutional.

THAT Senate approve a proposed amendment to Section 3.4(b) of the Senate Constitution to read as follows: 3.4 (b) Students: Twenty-two (22) students, comprising the President and Vice President - Academic and External of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), representation from Faculties (at least one of whom shall represent the Agricultural Campus), representation from equity-seeking groups, a

minimum of two graduate students and a minimum of one international student. Students shall be elected to Senate for one-year terms using a process as determined by the DSU.

The amended motion was **DEFEATED**.

The SPGC will re-reconsider the matter at their next meeting.

2016:07

Question Period

There were no questions.

2016:08

Other Business

Funding of the JRJ Chair in Black Canadian Studies

Senator Watters provided a history of the funding for the James Robertson Johnston (JRJ) Chair in Black Canadian Studies. In 1991 the Memorandum of Understanding between Dalhousie and the Federal Minister of State set a goal of \$2M for the endowment, \$400,000 from the Minister of State and the rest through fundraising. The draft terms of reference from 2002 state that the endowment is to be held by Dalhousie and invested by the Board of Governors Investment Committee. The endowment earnings are used for salary, fringe benefits for the Chair holder; expenses related with meetings of the national advisory board; and, where possible, secretarial support for the Chair and discretionary funding for specific Chair related travel or research. The annual revenue is based on a \$2M endowment and calculated using the current Board approved rate of 4.25%. Annual budget expenditures for the Chair include salary, fringe benefits and for programming and support. This currently exceeds the income by more than 50% and is covered by the University.

The Finance Office will provide a complete annual budget statement prior to the start of each academic year. A brief is being prepared for the files of the VP Finance, VP Academic, and the JRJ Chair to outline more clearly the resources associated with the position.

Senator Watters also updated Senate on the Budget Advisory Committee process. A first draft should be finalized within the week. Particularly emphasis is placed on facilities renewal, IT network infrastructure, and FASS. The draft will be reviewed at the January 25, 2016 Senate meeting, to be released shortly thereafter. The final budget is to be taken to the Board for approval in June.

2016:09

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.